

SCIENTIFIC RESULTS OF THE MAMMAL SURVEY No. XLV
TWO NEW FLYING SQUIRRELS FROM THE MERGUI
ARCHIPELAGO

BY

OLDFIELD THOMAS, F.R.S.

Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum

When working out Mr. Primrose's specimens from the Mergui Archipelago in 1923 I distinguished from *Petaurista mergulus* two other forms of the same general type, described them and sent the MS. to India. This however was never published, and appears to have been lost in the post.¹ On the basis of the named and labelled types however I think it best to publish short diagnoses of the two Flying Squirrels, though I confess that I have now so far forgotten the subject that these diagnoses can only represent such characteristics as readily spring to the eye.

Petaurista mergulus reguli, subsp. n.

Colour throughout quite like typical *mergulus* of Ross and Tavoy Islands, but decidedly larger, as evidenced by the skull measurements.

Dimensions of the type :—

Head and body 440 mm. ; tail 450 ; hindfoot 72 ; ear 40.

Skull, greatest length 70·3 ; condylo incisive length 66 ; zygomatic breadth 47·7 ; nasals 21·5 × 13·5 ; upper cheek teeth, exclusive of p³, 16.

HAB. King Island, Mergui Archipelago.

Type. Adult female. B.M. No. 23. 1. 6. 50. Original number 49. Collected September 22, 1921, by Mr. C. Primrose. Presented to the Bombay Natural History Society.

Petaurista mergulus primrosei, subsp. n.

Size slightly larger than in true *mergulus*, smaller than in *reguli*. General essential markings as in *mergulus*, but the whole dorsal surface and especially the patagium suffused with deep chestnut rufous.

Dimensions of the type :—

Head and body 425 mm. ; tail 478 ; hindfoot 72 ; ear 38.

Skull, greatest length 68·5 ; condylo-incisive length 63 ; zygomatic breadth 47·5 ; nasals 21·5 × 12·8 ; upper cheek teeth, exclusive of p³, 14.

HAB. Lampi (otherwise Sullivan) Island, Mergui Archipelago. A specimen also seen from Sir J. Malcolm Island.

Type. Adult female. B.M. No. 23. 1. 6. 53. Original number 507. Collected March 6, 1922, by Mr. C. Primrose, and presented to the Bombay Natural History Society.

¹ The original MS. was lost in the wreck of the P. & O. S. S. *Egypt*.